

Chilmark Board of Selectmen October 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Remote participants:

Chairman Bill Rossi, Warren Doty and Jim Malkin. Others: Tim Carroll, Adam Turner, Megan Gombos, Alex Elvin, Cathy Thompson, Joan Malkin, Peter Cook, Isaiah Scheffer, Ann Wallace, Jed Katch, Police Chief Jonathan Klaren, Michael Jacobs, Peter Neilley, Robert Doyle, Sergio Modigliani, Gary Mottau, Judith Flanders, Diana DeBlase news reporters: Lucas Thors and Maia Coleman. (23 participants)

At 5:00 PM Chairman Rossi called meeting to order in the Zoom platform.

Mr. Doty said thank you to the Chilmark Fire department. Mr. Doty said we had extraordinary fire events and their response was very professional.

Minutes:

Draft minutes from 10/6/2020 were reviewed. Mr. Doty requested name spelling correction. Mr. Malkin moved to approve with correction. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) presentation:

MVC Director Adam Turner made a brief introduction to the presentation and handed over to Megan Gombos and Alex Elvin to discuss progress of the climate change taskforce.

Megan Gombos said adaptation can't be done without working with towns. Ms. Gombos said we will access resources far and wide to aid in decision making.

Ms. Gombos spoke of the following items:

- Mitigation is one of the two major actions to Climate change we will be focusing on Adaptation the second major action.
- Adaptation knowing of changes in future and making changes we are addressing adaptation actions.
- In Chilmark: Buildings and structures in Menemsha and wildfire are major issues.
- Island wide scale impacts to SSA supply chain and evacuation
- Roadways
- Prolonged power outages
- Food security, reduced water security, impact on emergency services, and consequences on tourism for tax revenue.

Ms. Gombos said Chilmark has done their Climate study group and are moving to climate action group.

Regional planning. Mitigation: reduction of fossil fuel and energy use. Flood pathways.

Climate resilience committee

Talking to stakeholders ie Harbormasters to real-estate agents.

Designed through community engagement prosthesis

Looking for funding for consultant on how to tackle the action plans. Will return regularly to give updates within the year.

- 1.) Utilize and share the prepared by MVC: booklets to be a one stop shopping for information.
- 2.) Continued engagement with island wide engagement committee Peter Neilly been great if others let us know. Pull together grant proposals for all island towns

Mr. Carroll said the link to the MVC report is available on the Town of Chilmark website for this Selectmen meeting agenda: *continued to the next page*

Chairman Rossi thanked Ms. Gombos and the Chilmark climate action group for their hard work and looks forward to more information.

Harbormaster fall walkabout:

Harbormaster's report and recommendations. Chairman Rossi said all selectmen have read this report. Chairman Rossi said there is a recommendation in the report to increase on mooring fees to help pay for the repairs and maintenance needed. Mr. Doty requested more information on this prior to making a decision. Mr. Doty recommended to put on future agenda the increase to mooring fee. Mr. Doty said the first 4 items (on Harbormaster's report) are very doable and are first priority; the next items that follow need more review. Mr. Doty said we could approve the first 4 listed on harbormaster's recommendations report. Mr. Malkin said he had 2 points: 1.) Mooring fees is that a Harbor Advisory agenda 2.) Where is Harbormaster at with the grant application? Mr. Doty said this whole report should go to the Harbor Advisory Committee. Chairman Rossi requested Mr. Carroll help to set up a meeting for the Harbor Advisory and he (Chairman Rossi) would like to attend. Mr. Neilly said he is working with Harbormaster on grant applications / Seaport Economic Counsel grants. Mr. Doty recommended to engage the Governor's office and representatives when we send in the applications. Chairman Rossi said the Harbormaster requesting a port-a-potty for 22 weeks. Mr. Malkin said we are already paying for one outside the Comfort Station and he is not supporting an additional. Chairman Rossi said at this time we are not allowing additional expense for a second port-a-potty.

Shellfish – Recreational Oyster season:

Mr. Doty asked for recreational oyster season to open for time before commercial. Shellfish Constable Isaiah Scheffer said Chris Murphy wants designation of a family area. But we have had closures due to bacteria. Constable Scheffer recommended to leave the way we already recommended and Selectmen approved. Both Mr. Malkin and Chairman Rossi stated they support what was already recommended and approved by the Board of Selectmen. There was discussion of the Blue/Green Algae bacteria that is present in our ponds. Mr. Scheffer gave an update. Mr. Doty said we are paying attention and are involved but we have no answers yet.

Renaming Board to Select Board rather than Board of Selectmen:

Mr. Carroll said this will need an Act of legislation. Mr. Malkin said he is in favor of changing name to Select Board. Mr. Doty agreed. Chairman Rossi moved to put this on Annual Town Meeting Warrant. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

RFP 4 North Ridge Rd. property sale Update:

Chairman Rossi said this project was not marketed well enough; we received no bids. There was discussion to

- Possibly lower minimum bid. *continued to the next page*

- Brush cut potential building envelope.
- Assessed at \$642,000. But revalue has that figure increasing
- Involve brokers.
- No minimum, but reserve right to reject.

Mr. Doty said he supports following Chairman Rossi's recommendations.

Mr. Malkin asked if this was a timing issue. Chairman Rossi said we don't want to delay too long. It was decided that Chairman Rossi and Mr. Carroll will work together and return with proposal. Chairman Rossi said we will also will consult legal counsel. Sergio Modigliani recommended sweetening the deal to encourage good price for 4 Noerth Ridge property.

Halloween / Fire department:

Mr. Carroll said the Fire Department is working out a drive through at town hall for pictures. Mr. Doty said he supports Trick or treating outside but no indoor parties.

Halloween / Fire department Continued...

Mr. Malkin said he is not fine telling people they can't return home to have a party with their pod. Mr. Doty said this is an informal discussion no rules. Selectmen agreed to allow Fireman's association to use town hall parking lot.

Town Administrator:

- 1.) MV Youth Taskforce MOU signing. Mr. Malkin moved to approve and sign. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**
- 2.) Authorize signature on Election Grant of \$5,000. Mr. Malkin moved to approve and sign. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**
- 3.) American Red Cross Donation box relocation to LDO near DAS fence away from CCC
Selectmen took no action and recommended further review.
- 4.) TE2 HVAC moving forward for School system.

Mr. Carroll gave a brief Finance update:

- No impacts for collection right on targets for revenues.
- \$210,000 short term rental taxes collected.
- Chapter 90 funds came in.

2020 92% of market value DOR will recommend increasing the values.

Overlay \$35,000 for assessor's abatements now we can aggregate \$96,000.00 of new growth (additions and improvements to existing homes)

At 6:27 PM with no further items for discussion Mr. Malkin moved to adjourn. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

APPROVED 11/05/2020

Document list:

- Draft minutes from Selectmen's 10/06/2020 meeting
- MVC Climate report
- Harbormaster fall report

